

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q96644

Hideo KOBAYASHI

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/002814

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 25, 2006

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING PHOTOMASK BLANK

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/002814
Attorney Docket No. Q96644

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP2004/002814 dated June 22, 2004), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

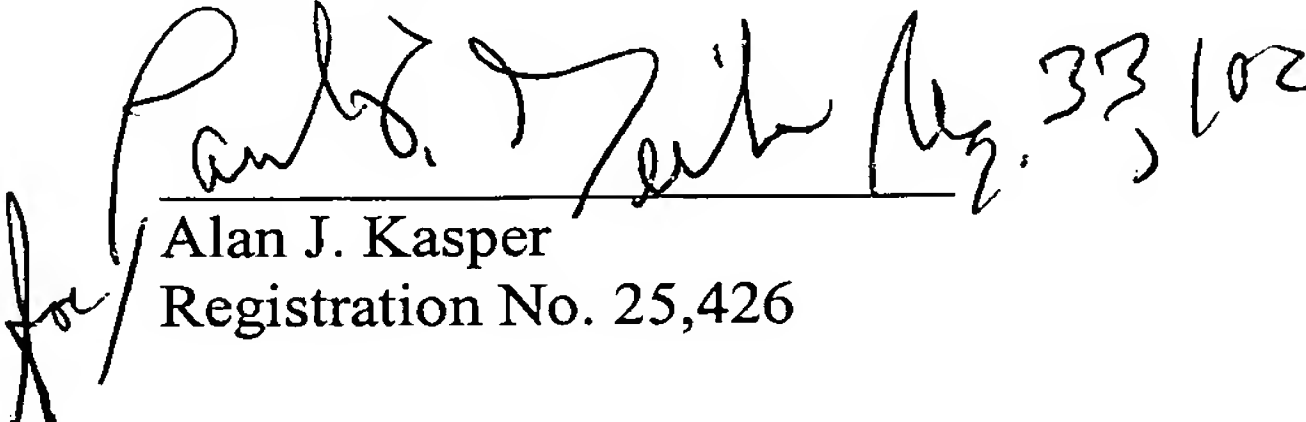
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,


for Alan J. Kasper
Registration No. 25,426

Date: August 25, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number Confirmation Number Filing Date First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number		National Stage of PCT/JP2004/002814 Not yet assigned August 25, 2006 Hideo KOBAYASHI Not yet assigned Not yet assigned Q96644	
Sheet	1	of	1				

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2001-259502	A	09-25-2001	HOYA CORP.	Abstract
		JP	7-20623	A	01-24-1995	HOYA CORP.	Abstract
		JP	2002-289512	A	10-04-2002	SIGMAMELTEC LTD.	Abstract
		JP	2004-79590	A	03-11-2004	HOYA CORP.	Abstract
		JP	58-98925	A	06-13-1983	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND. CO. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	52-123172	A	04-18-1983	FUJI PHOTO FILM CO. LTD.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.